

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONROV 00653 031020Z

21

ACTION SCSE-00

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R 030919Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4558

UNCLAS MONROVIA 0653

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC

SUBJECT: W/W EMMERY NATHANIEL BURNETTE

REF: MONROVIA 500

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NUMBER OF TELEPHONE INQUIRIES FROM MR. WALTER L. TURNER, CHICAGO, REGARDING THIS CASE. SENATORS STEVENSON, PERCY ALSO INTERESTED. APPRECIATE DEPT'S ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING STATUS REPORT TO TURNER WHO CAN BE REACHED (312) 363-5736 OR (312) 363-7835 (BOTH HOME NUMBERS).

2. ON FEB. 1, MRS. TURNER ATTEMPTED FILE WRIT OF HABEUS CORPUS IN MONROVIA CIRCUIT COURT TO REQUIRE FORMER HUSBAND, SAMUEL BURNETTE, TO PRODUCE CHILD. CONSULAR OFFICER (DORR) WAS PRESENT FOR SCHEDULED COURT HEARING. AT LAST MOMENT, JUDGE FAILED TO APPEAR, BURNETTE ARRIVED WITHOUT CHILD, AND JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES INFORMED MRS. TURNER THAT HER CASE WOULD HAVE TO BE HEARD BY A SUPREME COURT JUSTICE. MRS. TURNER, BURNETTE, AND THEIR ATTORNEYS WERE ORDERED APPEAR BEFORE SUPREMEM COURT JUSTICE HORACE IN NEW HEARING NOW SCHEDULED FEBRUARY 6. EMBASSY OFFICER WILL ATTEND.

3. FOR DEPT'S INFO, MRS. TURNER STATES SHE DISSATISFIED WITH HER OWN ATTORNEY AND WITH TREATMENT SHE RECEIVING UNDER LIBERIAN LEGAL SYSTEM. SHE ALSO CLAIMS HORACE IS EX-HUSBAND BURNETTE'S "GODFATHER". EMBASSY CAN SEE NO REASON INTERVENE WITH LIBERIAN AUTHORITIES ON HER BEHALF AT THIS TIME, SINCE AUTHORITIES APPEAR TO BE HANDLING CASE CONSISTENT WITH LOCAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION REQUESTED
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REFTEL REGARDING CHARGES OUTSTANDING AGAINST BURNETTE IN U.S.

AS WELL AS DEPT'S ADVICE WHETHER THERE ANY ADDITIONAL STEPS
WE CAN TAKE TO BE HELPFUL TO CHILD AND/OR MRS. TURNER.
PENBERTHY

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